REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Initially, Applicants respectfully request that the references AO-AS cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed March 22, 2005 be acknowledged as having been considered in the next Office Action.

In response to the objections to Claims 1, 14 and 34, Claims 1, 14 and 34 are amended to correct the noted informalities or to delete the informalities. In light of their formal nature, the changes to Claims 1, 14 and 34 do not raise a question of new matter.

Claims 1-14, 22-27, 31-32, 34-38 are presently active in this case. The present Amendment amends Claims 1, 7-8, 14, 22, 25, 32 and 34 without introducing any new matter.

The outstanding Office Action objected to Claims 1, 14 and 34 because of informalities. Claims 1-14, 22-27, 31-32 and 36-38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Hikawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,678,065) in view of Imamura (U.S. Patent No. 5,963,717). Claims 34-35 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter. In response, independent Claim 1 is amended to recite "said buffer including a first and second buffer," and to recite "wherein said transferring depends on a preset priority order when two DMA transfer requests for the image data in the first and second buffers are received simultaneously." These features were previously presented in dependent, allowable Claim 34 and these features are also supported by Applicants' specification from page 41, line 19, to page 42, line 22. The features introduced herewith to independent Claim 1 do not represent all the features of allowable dependent Claim 34 and the intervening Claim 32.

However, in light of the comments stated below, Applicants believe that these features define patentable subject matter over the references of record.

Independent Claims 7-8, 14, 22 and 25 are amended analogous to the amendments to Claim 1. Dependent Claims 32 and 34, depending from independent Claim 14, are amended to be consistent with the changes to Claim 14, so as to further limit the scope of independent Claim 14 without reciting the same features. Since the amendments are supported by the specification as originally filed, or all the features were previously presented in Claim 34, the amendments are not believed to raise a question on new matter or new issued.

In response to the rejection of Claims 1-14, 22-27, 31-32 and 36-38 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), in light of the amendments to independent Claim 1, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this rejection and traverse the rejection, since none of the applied references Hikawa and Imamura, taken individually or in combination, teach the transferring of image data depending on a preset priority order, when two DMA transfer requests for the image data in the first and second buffers are received simultaneously, as recited in independent Claim 1. While Hikawa is entirely silent on the claimed DMA transfer request, as explained in the July 14, 2005 Amendment, Imamura merely teaches that if a certain amount of data is stored in the buffer, the data is DMA-transferred to the RAM through the local bus.[1] Therefore, even if the combination of Hikawa and Imamura is assumed to be proper, the combination fails to teach every element of the claimed invention. Specifically, the combination fails to teach the claimed transferring of image data depending on a preset priority order, when two DMA transfer requests for the image data in the first and second buffers are received simultaneously. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse, and request reconsideration of, this rejection based on these patents.[2]

[1] See Imamura at column 3, lines 11-15.
[2] See MPEP 2142 stating, as one of the three "basic criteria [that] must be met" in order to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, that "the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations," (emphasis added). See also MPEP 2143.03: "All words in a claim must be considered in

Independent Claims 7-8, 14, 22, and 25 recite limitations analogous to the limitations recited in independent Claim 1. Moreover, Claims 7-8, 14, 22, and 25 have been amended in a manner analogous to the amendment to Claim 1. Accordingly, for the reasons stated above for the patentability of Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 7-8, 14, 22, and 25 are rendered moot by the present amendment to 7-8, 14, 22, and 25.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-14, 22-27, 31-32, 34-38 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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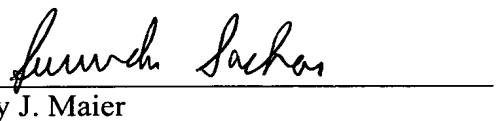

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judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art."